



**STATEMENT OF PROCEEDINGS
FOR THE SPECIAL MEETING OF THE
LOS ANGELES COUNTY AUDIT COMMITTEE
KENNETH HAHN HALL OF ADMINISTRATION
500 WEST TEMPLE STREET, ROOM 374-A
LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA 90012**

Wednesday, April 6, 2016

10:30 AM

AUDIO FOR THE ENTIRE MEETING. (16-1989)

Attachments: [AUDIO](#)

Present: Michelle Vega, Emily Williams, and Sarkis Semerdjyan

Absent: Chair James A. Blunt, Vice Chair Dorinne Jordan,
Member Kieu-Anh King, and Member Carl Gallucci

I. ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

1. Call to Order. (16-1392)

The meeting was called to order by Emily Williams at 10:34 a.m.

2. Approval of the minutes for the meeting of February 17, 2016. (16-1393)

By common consent, there being no objections, this item was approved.

Attachments: [SUPPORTING DOCUMENT](#)

3. Department Success Stories. (16-1394)

Karen Richardson, Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS) reported about a "Quinceañera" celebration that took place a month ago involving eight (8) young girls and provided them with cultural benefits; DCFS partnered with Telemundo and quinceañera.com for sponsorship of expenses.

Lisa Campbell-Motton, Probation, reported on the 3rd College Youth Summit; this function is charged with getting youth motivated to attend

college and provides them with information, tools and guidance. The event was a success with approximately 250 attendees that included DCFS youth for the first time, and participation from a wide range of vendors brought in lightly used garments that were much welcomed by the youth.

Ms. Campbell-Motton also reported on the collaborative work group across the County regarding transgender youth; Dr. Johanna Olson, M.D., specializing in Adolescent Medicine and Medical Director of the Center for Transyouth Health and Development at Children's Hospital L. A., donated a two-hour consultation to this event, she also has a two-day work shop that is of interest to the department that would provide additional training and understanding about the physical and hormonal changes experienced by the transgender population through their transition.

II. OLD BUSINESS

4. Sand Hill Group Home Fiscal Assessment and Contract Compliance Review (12/28/15). Continued from the meeting of February 17, 2016. (16-0351)

Diana Flaggs, Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS), provided an update and reported that this Group Home (GH) is placed on "do not use", all children have been transitioned out, and the search for loan documents regarding the Executive Director loan is in progress by the GH. Additionally, a copy of the Auditor-Controller's 2004 report was provided as a reminder of the findings that indicate the document requirements. Also, it is possible that this GH is experiencing organizational changes, they may come back to re-open or tie-up the details to close the facility; the longtime executive director and facility manager is experiencing adverse health issues and may head towards retirement.

In response to questions posed by the Committee, Ms. Flaggs reported that this agency is a six-bed facility located in the Second District. This GH had five placed youth, they were placed on hold in November 2015 at which time they had two placed youth; one of the remaining two youth was placed in a licensed foster home, and the other at Dream Home Care, a contracted GH in the Long Beach area.

On motion of Emily Williams, seconded by Michelle Vega, this item was received and filed.

Attachments: [SUPPORTING DOCUMENT - DCFS REPORT](#)

III. REPORTS

5. Diakonia Inc. Fiscal Compliance Assessment (1/28/16). (16-0965)

On motion of Emily Williams, seconded by Michelle Vega, this item was received and filed.

Attachments: [SUPPORTING DOCUMENT - DCFS REPORT](#)

6. The Richstone Center Fiscal Compliance Assessment (1/28/16). (16-0966)

On motion of Emily Williams, seconded by Michelle Vega, this item was received and filed.

Attachments: [SUPPORTING DOCUMENT - DCFS REPORT](#)

7. Eggleston Family Services Foster Family Agency Quality Assurance Review (2/8/16). (16-1208)

On motion of Emily Williams, seconded by Michelle Vega, this item was received and filed.

Attachments: [SUPPORTING DOCUMENT - DCFS REPORT](#)

8. Mary's Shelter - A Department of Children and Family Services Group Home Contract Provider - Fiscal Compliance Review (2/8/16). (16-0967)

On motion of Emily Williams, seconded by Michelle Vega, this item was received and filed.

Attachments: [SUPPORTING DOCUMENT - AC REPORT](#)

9. McKinley Children's Center dba McKinley Boys Home Foster Family Agency Contract Compliance Monitoring Review (2/9/16). (16-0968)

Diana Flaggs, Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS), responded to questions posed by Michelle Vega, Fifth District, regarding the details surrounding a Community Care Licensing (CCL) citation and the cause of decertification of this Home. Ms. Flaggs went on to report that the CCL citation was issued because the foster parent did not have the appropriate booster seat required for a child between the ages of 5 - 7, the child met this requirement by way of age and weight ranges; decertification occurred due to resistance by the certified foster parent on several occasions to comply with CCL and the Foster Family Agency (FFA) and provide a booster seat, all children were removed from this Home.

On motion of Emily Williams, seconded by Michelle Vega, this item was received and filed.

Attachments: [SUPPORTING DOCUMENT - DCFS REPORT](#)

- 10.** Garces Residential Care Services Group Home Quality Assurance Review (2/9/16). (16-1161)

On motion of Emily Williams, seconded by Michelle Vega, this item was received and filed.

Attachments: [SUPPORTING DOCUMENT - DCFS REPORT](#)

- 11.** Hathaway-Sycamore Group Home Quality Assurance Review (2/9/16). (16-1162)

Karen Richardson, Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS), responded to questions posed by the Committee regarding children missing and AWOL from the Group Home (GH). Ms. Richardson went on to report that six AWOL children did not have a timely Security Incident Reports (SIR) on file; this raised concerns regarding the reasons for AWOLs, and whether appropriate action was taken, this is under review.

On motion of Emily Williams, seconded by Michelle Vega, this item was received and filed.

Attachments: [SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS - DCFS REPORT](#)

- 12.** Futuro Infantil Hispano Foster Family Agency Quality Assurance Review (2/9/16). (16-1163)

On motion of Emily Williams, seconded by Michelle Vega, this item was received and filed.

Attachments: [SUPPORTING DOCUMENT - DCFS REPORT](#)

- 13.** Macro Homes, Inc. Group Home Quality Assurance Review (2/9/16). (16-1164)

Karen Richardson, Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS), reported that this Group Home (GH) is placed on “do not use” status in December 2015, and all children have been removed. This contract is due to expire in September 2016 and could be terminated. Diana Flagg, DCFS, indicated that this contract is going into the Contractor Alert Reporting Database (CARD), and considerations to terminate are in process.

On motion of Emily Williams, seconded by Michelle Vega, this item was received and filed.

Attachments: [SUPPORTING DOCUMENT - DCFS REPORT](#)

- 14.** Changing The Health of Adolescents Impacting The Nation Reaction Transitional Housing Program Plus Fiscal Compliance Assessment (2/10/16). (16-1165)

Diana Flaggs, Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS), indicated that the follow up visit scheduled for May 2016 will determine whether this Contractor successfully implemented their Corrective Action Plan (CAP), fiscal training was provided in January 2016; Ms. Flaggs will provide an update at the next meeting.

On motion of Emily Williams, seconded by Michelle Vega, this item was received and filed.

Attachments: [SUPPORTING DOCUMENT - DCFS REPORT](#)

- 15.** Heritage Group Homes Fiscal Assessment and Contract Compliance Monitoring Review (2/10/16). (16-1166)

On motion of Emily Williams, seconded by Michelle Vega, this item was received and filed.

Attachments: [SUPPORTING DOCUMENT - DCFS REPORT](#)

- 16.** Human Services Network dba Youth Services Network Group Home Quality Assurance Review (2/10/16). (16-1167)

Karen Richardson, Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS), provided a brief overview regarding the 1 - 6 scoring scale of the Quality Assurance Report (QAR); anything less than a score of 6 in the safety category is not acceptable.

In response to questions posed by Sarkis Semerdjyan, First District, regarding the action taken on the finding of alcohol, and what will be done to stop this reoccurrence, Ms. Richardson reported that the staff has committed to call 911 upon determination of any child being under the influence or consumption of alcohol, room searches will be increased to twice a week, and additional training is in progress. Also, the visit scheduled for May 2016 will indicate whether the Quality Improvement Plan (QIP) was successfully implemented; Ms. Richardson will provide an update at the next meeting.

On motion of Emily Williams, seconded by Michelle Vega, this item was received and filed.

Attachments: [SUPPORTING DOCUMENT - DCFS REPORT](#)

- 17.** Rosemary Children's Services Group Home Quality Assurance Review (2/10/16). (16-1168)

Karen Richardson, Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS), explained the details surrounding a safety score; safety scores focus on the responses to the Safety Incident Report (SIR) such as timely reporting and appropriate processing, and whether the youth was provided with services. Discussions regarding subjectivity are scheduled to take place at the next Cluster meeting.

Michelle Vega, Fifth District, expressed concerns regarding the Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children (CSEC) youth and the sexual assaults referenced in the SIR's. Ms. Richardson will review this issue and provide the details via email.

In response to questions posed by Sarkis Semerdjyan, First District, regarding the percentage of absences without leave (AWOL), Ms. Richardson explained about the CSEC youth habits to leave unexpectedly; the youth are treated appropriately and provided with services and support.

On motion of Emily Williams, seconded by Michelle Vega, this item was received and filed.

Attachments: [SUPPORTING DOCUMENT - DCFS REPORT](#)

- 18.** Rosemary Children's Service Group Home Fiscal Assessment and Contract Compliance Review (2/10/16). (16-1169)

On motion of Emily Williams, seconded by Michelle Vega, this item was received and filed.

Attachments: [SUPPORTING DOCUMENT - DCFS REPORT](#)

- 19.** Lifecircles Unlimited DBA Lifecircles Group Home Fiscal Assessment and Contract Compliance Review (2/10/16). (16-1170)

Diana Flaggs, Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS) provided an update regarding the hold placed on October 30, 2015; Ms. Flaggs indicated that an appropriate Corrective Action Plan (CAP) has been

submitted to the Out-of-Home Care Management Division (OHCMD) and the hold was removed in January 2016 from this six bed small based community program. Ms. Flaggs also indicated that the Program Administrator has extensive knowledge about the children, and improvements are expected; the follow up visit is in process, and an update can be provided at the next meeting.

Michelle Vega, Fifth District, made reference to Page 4 of the Contract Compliance Review, and posed questions regarding the documentation in the children's case files. Ms. Flaggs indicated that a contract requirement specifically states that the Group Home (GH) must conduct monthly contact with the DCFS Case Social Worker (CSW), the status and/or outcome must be documented. Additionally, monthly DCFS visits to the GH would also provide documentation regarding updates; she further indicated that technical assistance was provided by OHCMD due to incomplete documentation. Ms. Flaggs will review this issue and provide an update at the next meeting.

On motion of Emily Williams, seconded by Sarkis Semerdjyan, this item was received and filed.

Attachments: [SUPPORTING DOCUMENT - DCFS REPORT](#)

20. David and Margaret Youth and Family Services Group Home Quality Assurance Review (2/10/16). (16-1171)

On motion of Emily Williams, seconded by Michelle Vega, this item was received and filed.

Attachments: [SUPPORTING DOCUMENT - DCFS REPORT](#)

21. The House of Bethesda Group Home Fiscal Compliance Assessment (2/10/16). (16-1172)

On motion of Emily Williams, seconded by Michelle Vega, this item was received and filed.

Attachments: [SUPPORTING DOCUMENT - DCFS REPORT](#)

22. Junior Blind of America Group Home Contract Compliance Review and Fiscal Assessment (2/10/16). (16-1173)

Diana Flaggs, Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS), provided details surrounding the issue of Safety Incident Reports (SIR) not submitted and whether this issue is appropriately addressed in the Corrective Action Plan (CAP). Ms. Flaggs indicated that in addition to

the CAP the 2015-16 review is complete with no SIR findings in following year's review, and improvements have been noted. Additionally, the Compliance Review for 2015-16 indicates SIR's timely submitted and appropriately cross reported; monitoring is ongoing.

On motion of Emily Williams, seconded by Sarkis Semerdjyan, this item was received and filed.

Attachments: [SUPPORTING DOCUMENT - DCFS REPORT](#)

23. Los Angeles Youth Network Group Home Contract Compliance Review (2/10/16). (16-1174)

On motion of Emily Williams, seconded by Michelle Vega, this item was received and filed.

Attachments: [SUPPORTING DOCUMENT - DCFS REPORT](#)

24. Five Acres Group Home Quality Assurance Review (2/10/16). (16-1175)

Karen Richardson, Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS), responded to questions posed by Sarkis Semerdjyan, First District, regarding his reference of Page 6 of the Quality Assurance Review (QAR) about the unfounded physical altercations. Ms. Richardson will review this issue to determine whether the same individuals were involved and provide an update via email.

Additionally, Emily Williams, Second District, noted that the Third, Fourth and Fifth Districts visited this facility and found a lovely campus with professional and knowledgeable staff, there was a good feeling all around.

On motion of Emily Williams, seconded by Michelle Vega, this item was received and filed.

Attachments: [SUPPORTING DOCUMENT - DCFS REPORT](#)

25. Foster Family Network Foster Family Agency Quality Assurance Review (2/10/16). (16-1176)

Karen Richardson, Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS), responded to questions posed by Sarkis Semerdjyan, First District, regarding his reference of Page 9 of the Quality Assurance Review (QAR) about Teamwork. Ms. Richardson explained that in November 2015 the Foster Family Agency (FFA) strengthened monthly discussions with DCFS, encouraged Children's Social Workers (CSW) to engage in monthly

visits and further collaborations with the foster families; this documentation will be included in the Needs for Services monthly plan to meet goals and address any barriers. Additionally, a visit is scheduled for this month and an update can be provided at the next meeting.

On motion of Emily Williams, seconded by Michelle Vega, this item was received and filed.

Attachments: [SUPPORTING DOCUMENT - DCFS REPORT](#)

26. California Institute of Health and Social Services dba Children's Way Foster Family Agency Contract Compliance Monitoring Review (2/10/16). (16-1177)

Emily Williams, Second District, posed questions regarding the Community Care Licensing (CCL) citations and Out-of-Home Care Management Division safety reports. Karen Richardson, Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS), reported that technical assistance was provided in March 2016 regarding the Safety Incident Reports procedure. Diana Flaggs, DCFS, also reported about the two CCL citations and she indicated that this Foster Family Agency (FFA) has been notified regarding the Group Home's (GH) performance and decertification. Also a Corrective Action Plan has been implemented regarding non-payment of licensing fees, and management changes at the FFA have taken place. Additionally, the Auditor-Controller has conducted a Fiscal Review, and the agency has filed an SB 84 appeal; informal documentation is with counsel for review.

On motion of Emily Williams, seconded by Sarkis Semerdjyan, this item was received and filed.

Attachments: [SUPPORTING DOCUMENT - DCFS REPORT](#)

27. Florence Crittenton Services of Orange County, Inc. dba Crittenton Services for Children and Families Foster Family Agency Quality Assurance Review (2/10/16). (16-1178)

On motion of Emily Williams, seconded by Michelle Vega, this item was received and filed.

Attachments: [SUPPORTING DOCUMENT - DCFS REPORT](#)

28. Serenity Infant Care Homes, Inc. Foster Family Agency Quality Assurance Review (2/10/16). (16-1179)

On motion of Emily Williams, seconded by Michelle Vega, this item was

received and filed.

Attachments: [SUPPORTING DOCUMENT - DCFS REPORT](#)

29. Alpha Treatment Center Foster Family Agency Quality Assurance Review (2/11/16). (16-1180)

On motion of Emily Williams, seconded by Michelle Vega, this item was received and filed.

Attachments: [SUPPORTING DOCUMENT - DCFS REPORT](#)

30. Penny Lane Group Home Quality Assurance Review (2/11/16). (16-1181)

On motion of Emily Williams, seconded by Michelle Vega, this item was received and filed.

Attachments: [SUPPORTING DOCUMENT - DCFS REPORT](#)

31. Turmont Home for Boys and Girls Group Home Quality Assurance Review (2/12/16). (16-1182)

On motion of Emily Williams, seconded by Michelle Vega, this item was received and filed.

Attachments: [SUPPORTING DOCUMENT - DCFS REPORT](#)

32. Paragon Center, Inc. Group Home Quality Assurance Review (2/18/16). (16-1183)

On motion of Emily Williams, seconded by Michelle Vega, this item was received and filed.

Attachments: [SUPPORTING DOCUMENT - DCFS REPORT](#)

33. Olive Crest Foster Family Agency Quality Assurance Review (2/18/16). (16-1184)

On motion of Emily Williams, seconded by Michelle Vega, this item was received and filed.

Attachments: [SUPPORTING DOCUMENT - DCFS REPORT](#)

34. Los Angeles Youth Network Group Home Quality Assurance Review (2/18/16). (16-1185)

On motion of Emily Williams, seconded by Michelle Vega, this item was received and filed.

Attachments: [SUPPORTING DOCUMENT - DCFS REPORT](#)

35. South Bay Bright Future Fiscal Compliance Assessment (2/22/16). (16-1186)

On motion of Emily Williams, seconded by Michelle Vega, this item was received and filed.

Attachments: [SUPPORTING DOCUMENT - DCFS REPORT](#)

36. Garces Residential Care Services Group Home Fiscal Compliance Assessment and Contract Compliance Review (2/22/16). (16-1187)

On motion of Emily Williams, seconded by Michelle Vega, this item was received and filed.

Attachments: [SUPPORTING DOCUMENT - DCFS REPORT](#)

37. B & I Group Home Quality Assurance Review (2/22/16). (16-1188)

On motion of Emily Williams, seconded by Michelle Vega, this item was received and filed.

Attachments: [SUPPORTING DOCUMENT - DCFS REPORT](#)

38. Childhelp USA Foster Family Agency Quality Assurance Review (2/23/16). (16-1189)

On motion of Emily Williams, seconded by Michelle Vega, this item was received and filed.

Attachments: [SUPPORTING DOCUMENT - DCFS REPORT](#)

39. Alpha Treatment Center Foster Family Agency Quality Assurance Review (2/23/16). (16-1190)

On motion of Emily Williams, seconded by Michelle Vega, this item was received and filed.

Attachments: [SUPPORTING DOCUMENT - DCFS REPORT](#)

40. Olive Crest Group Home Quality Assurance Review (2/23/16). (16-1364)

On motion of Emily Williams, seconded by Michelle Vega, this item was received and filed.

Attachments: [SUPPORTING DOCUMENT - DCFS REPORT](#)

41. Children's Institute, Inc. Foster Family Agency Quality Assurance Review (2/23/16). (16-1365)

On motion of Emily Williams, seconded by Michelle Vega, this item was received and filed.

Attachments: [SUPPORTING DOCUMENT - DCFS REPORT](#)

- 42.** The Dangerfield Institute of Urban Problems Group Home Quality Assurance Review (2/23/16). (16-1366)

Karen Richardson, Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS), responded to questions posed by the Committee regarding the number of Safety Incident Reports (SIR) and inappropriate sexual behavior. Ms. Richardson indicated that all SIR's were reported timely and processed correctly with appropriate responses to the needs of the youth placed at the Group Home (GH); currently this GH has 17 DCFS youth, and 1 Probation youth, SIRs were for L.A. County only. Ms. Richardson will explore these issues to determine the possibility of a runaway population having caused this spike with increased SIRs, and whether Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children (CSEC) youth were placed at this GH. Ongoing trainings through the advocacy contract are available to all providers that are informative and provide additional support and services for the CSEC population.

On motion of Emily Williams, seconded by Sarkis Semerdjyan, this item was received and filed.

Attachments: [SUPPORTING DOCUMENT - DCFS REPORT](#)

- 43.** Koinonia Foster Homes, Inc. Foster Family Agency Quality Assurance Review (2/23/16). (16-1367)

Diana Flaggs, Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS), provided a follow up regarding the Community Care Licensing (CCL) citations. Ms. Flaggs explained that a San Bernardino County child and foster parent were involved; Ms. Flaggs could not provide details regarding the condition of the child and/or the prosecution due to no response from San Bernardino. Ms. Flaggs further updated about her efforts, and indicated that she has reviewed this matter with County Counsel and determined that details could be provided after this case is prosecuted. Additionally, children over the age of 10 have influence regarding their choice to remain with a foster parent; however, the courts have the final authority.

On motion of Emily Williams, seconded by Michelle Vega, this item was received and filed.

Attachments: [SUPPORTING DOCUMENT - DCFS REPORT](#)

IV. DISCUSSIONS

44. Update by DCFS on how Junior Blind of America Group Home plans to decrease school absenteeism and the number of runaways as requested at the meeting of February 17, 2016 by Emily Williams, Second District. (16-1731)

Karen Richardson, Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS), provided an update regarding the number of absence without leave (AWOL) from school, this number has decreased; however, there is further concern since AWOL's have increased with children missing from the Group Home (GH). Currently, DCFS is meeting with the facility to determine their action, and determine what is the core reason motivating this issue. Ms. Richardson will provide an additional update at the next meeting.

By common consent, there being no objections, this item was continued to the next meeting.

45. Comprehensive work schedule and work flows for 2015-2016 of all Fiscal Reviews and Quality Assurance Reports conducted by the Auditor-Controller as requested at the meeting of February 17, 2016. (16-1730)

Aggie Alonso, Auditor-Controller (A-C), reported that with the exception of four audits, all 2015-16 fiscal audits are in progress, they are in various stages of completion which also include 2014-15 that are in the appeal process.

Kym Renner, Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS), reported that included in this work plan is completion of 2014-15 reviews which are finalized; the majority of 2015 reports are posted with very few remaining; many of the 2015-16 reviews are completed and reports are in various stages of edits and approvals; completion of reviews and having the reports on upload will assist with the work flow and achieve the backlog.

Lisa Campbell-Motton, Probation, reported that all 2014-15 reports are posted, and approximately 7 reports for 2015-16 are under review and in various stages of completion.

46. Status update by DCFS on significant findings on Koinonia Foster Homes Foster Family Agency. (16-1754)

Diana Flaggs, Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS),

provided an update regarding the 2015-16 Compliance Review, a follow up was conducted in March 2016 and currently working with the Foster Family Agency (FFA), also a Home Care result was forwarded to provide the FFA with technical assistance and continue to improve their program. Ms. Flaggs will provide updates as they develop.

47. Discussion on the meeting schedule to accommodate the quantity of audit reports pending review. (16-1536)

In response to questions posed by the Committee regarding the number of reports on the agenda for review, Commission Services Staff explained about the number of reports that are pending. Kym Renner, Auditor-Controller (A-C), explained how the work flow has increased due to improvements with the processing. Diana Flaggs, Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS), indicated that the additional Quality Assurance Review (QAR) and Fiscal Compliance Review for each Foster Family Agency (FFA) and Group Home (GH) reports created a temporary backlog; the estimated production of reports is 353 annually.

Discussions ensued regarding the number of reports released by A-C, the estimated number for review at each meeting, the frequency of meetings, as well as the schedules available from each department; the Cluster meeting schedules will be reviewed for possibilities of meeting availability.

V. MISCELLANEOUS

48. Matters not on the posted agenda (to be presented and placed on the agenda of a future meeting). (16-1396)

Updates requested by Members will be included on the next meeting agenda under discussion items.

49. Public Comment. (16-1397)

No members of the public addressed the Committee on this item.

50. Adjournment. (16-1398)

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 11:30 a.m.